

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending. Claims 1, 4-6, and 11 are amended. Claims 2-3 are canceled.
No claims are added.

The Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Novey* (U.S. Pat. No. 4,946,411).

The Examiner also rejected claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Novey* in view of *Kawamura* (U.S. Pat. No. 4,810,216).

The Examiner acknowledged that claims 3-16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have amended claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of claims 2 and 3. Applicants have also amended claim 11 to incorporate the limitations of claims 1 and 2. As such, withdrawal of the Examiner's rejections is respectfully solicited.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

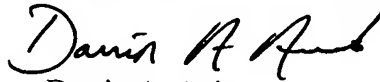
Application No. 10/762,528
Group Art Unit:

Response under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Attorney Docket No. 042011

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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